

What is claimed is:

1. An intravascular catheter, comprising:

a first tubular member having a proximal end region, a distal end region, and a first lumen extending at least partially therethrough;

a second tubular member coupled to the first tubular member, the second tubular member having a proximal end region, a distal end region, and a second lumen extending at least partially therethrough; and

wherein the distal end region of the second tubular member extends about ten centimeters or more distally beyond the distal end region of the first tubular member.

2. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the first and second tubular members are aligned in a substantially parallel configuration.

3. The catheter of claim 2, wherein the first and second tubular members are adhesively bonded.

4. The catheter of claim 2, wherein the first and second tubular members are co-extruded.

5. The catheter of claim 2, wherein the first and second tubular members are thermally bonded.

6. The catheter of claim 2, further comprising a sheath disposed over at least a portion of both the first tubular member and the second tubular member.

7. The catheter of claim 6, wherein the sheath secures the first tubular member with the second tubular member.

8. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the first and second tubular members are aligned in a substantially coaxial configuration.

9. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the first tubular member has an inner wall surface and the second tubular member has an outer wall surface, and wherein the outer wall surface is bonded to the inner wall surface.

10. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the first tubular member, the second tubular member, or both include a support structure layer.

11. The catheter of claim 10, wherein the support structure layer includes a braid.

12. The catheter of claim 10, wherein the support structure layer includes one or more coils.

13. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the distal end region of the second tubular member extends about 10-50 centimeters or more distally beyond the distal end region of the first tubular member.

14. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the distal end region of the second tubular member extends about 20-40 centimeters or more distally beyond the distal end region of the first tubular member.

15. The catheter of claim 1, wherein the first tubular member, the second tubular member, or both include a tapered region.

16. The catheter of claim 15, wherein both the first tubular member and the second tubular member include a tapered region and wherein the tapered regions are disposed in an overlapping arrangement.

17. An intravascular catheter, comprising:  
an elongate tubular body portion having a proximal end region, a distal end region, and a lumen defined therein;  
a first opening defined in the tubular body portion that is in fluid communication with the lumen and disposed adjacent the distal end region; and  
a second opening defined in the tubular body portion that is in fluid communication with the lumen and disposed at a position that is about ten centimeters or more proximal of the first opening.

18. The catheter of claim 17, wherein the tubular body portion tapers so that the cross-sectional area at the distal end region is smaller than the cross-sectional area at the proximal end region.

19. The catheter of claim 17, wherein the tubular body portion is defined by a first tube coupled to a second tube, the first and second tubes each having a distal end region.

20. The catheter of claim 19, wherein the first opening is defined adjacent the distal end region of the first tube.

21. The catheter of claim 19, wherein the second opening is defined adjacent the distal end region of the second tube.

22. The catheter of claim 19, wherein the first and second tubes are aligned in a substantially parallel configuration.

23. The catheter of claim 19, wherein the first and second tubes are aligned in a substantially coaxial configuration.

24. The catheter of claim 19, wherein the first tube, the second tube, or both include a support structure layer.

25. The catheter of claim 17, wherein the second opening is defined in the tubular body portion at a position that is about 10 to about 50 centimeters or more proximal of the first opening.

26. The catheter of claim 17, wherein the second opening is defined in the tubular body portion at a position that is about 20 to about 40 centimeters or more proximal of the first opening.

27. A hybrid microguide catheter device, comprising:

a first shaft member having a contrast media lumen extending therethrough, the contrast media lumen being configured for passing contrast media therethrough;

a second shaft member coupled to first shaft member, the second shaft member having a microcatheter lumen extending therethrough, the microcatheter lumen being configured for having a microcatheter pass therethrough; and

wherein the second shaft member is aligned with the first shaft member and extends distally beyond the first shaft member.

28. A method for manufacturing a catheter, comprising the steps of:

providing a first tubular member having a proximal end region, a distal end region, and a lumen defined therein;

providing a second tubular member having a proximal end region, a distal end region, and a lumen defined therein; and

securing the first tubular member and the second tubular member together in an arrangement where the distal end region of the first tubular member extends distally beyond the distal end region of the second tubular member.

29. A method for using a hybrid microguide catheter, comprising the steps of:  
providing a hybrid microguide catheter, the catheter comprising:

a first tubular member having a proximal end region, a distal end region,  
and a first lumen extending at least partially therethrough,

a second tubular member coupled to the first tubular member, the second  
tubular member having a proximal end region, a distal end region, and a second  
lumen extending at least partially therethrough, and

wherein the distal end region of the second tubular member extends  
distally beyond the distal end region of the first tubular member;

disposing the catheter in a blood vessel so that the distal end region of the second  
tubular member is disposed adjacent a target region;

infusing contrast media into the blood vessel through the lumen of the first tubular  
member; and

advancing a microcatheter through the lumen of the second tubular member.

30. A hybrid microguide catheter device, comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximally-disposed support and visualization portion  
and a distally-disposed distal access portion;

wherein the support and visualization portion defines a first lumen for infusing contrast media therethrough; and

wherein the distal access portion includes a second lumen for advancing a microcatheter therethrough.